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UNCLAS BEIJING 007142

THIS IS CHENGDU 0474
 QUOTE

E.O. 12356: N/A
 TAGS: PHUM, CH
 SUBJECT: TIBETAN COMMENT ON ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS
 REPORT

1. THE MARCH 5 ISSUE OF THE TIBET DAILY CONTAINS A
 STINGING CRITICISM OF THE TIBET PORTION OF THE
 DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT, AND STRONGLY
 IMPLIES THAT THE REPORT IS BEING USED AS A MEANS TO
 SPLIT CHINA. THE TIBETAN RESPONSE EMPHASIZES PROGRESS
 IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DOES NOT COMMENT ON MUCH
 OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT, AND IS
 HEAVY ON DIATRIBE.

2. THE REPORT, DATED IN BEIJING, QUOTES MEMBERS OF
 TIBET'S DELEGATION TO THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS
 ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SAYING THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT
 REPORT TWISTED FACTS, CONFUSED RIGHT AND WRONG AND
 INTERFERED IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CHINA. ONE NPC
 DELEGATE CITED RAPID ECONOMIC GROWTH AND A GDP TEN
 TIMES THE AMOUNT BEFORE 1951 AS EVIDENCE OF THE
 IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS, AS CONTRASTED WITH OLD
 TIBET, WHEN "WE SERFS HAD ENDLESS HARD WORK AND
 SUFFERING AND HUMAN RIGHTS ONLY BELONGED TO THE SERF
 OWNERS."

3. PARTY SECRETARY CHEN KUIYUAN AND HIS DEPUTY RAIDI
 BOTH CITED THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO
 TIBETAN DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING THE 2.2 BILLION USD
 INVESTED SINCE 1952 AS EVIDENCE THAT CHINA HAD
 PROVIDED THE MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHT, THE RIGHT
 TO SUBSISTENCE.

4. OTHER COMMENTS IN THE STORY CALLED THE HUMAN
 RIGHTS REPORT A LIE AND UTTERLY GROUNDLESS. THE
 ARTICLE CONCLUDED THAT "TIBET IS PART OF CHINA."

IRREGARDLESS OF WHOEVER ATTEMPTS TO USE HUMAN RIGHTS
 AS A WEAPON TO INTERNATIONALIZE THE TIBETAN QUESTION
 AND TO VAINLY ATTEMPT TO SPLIT CHINA.

5. COMMENT: THIS PRESS STORY, LIKE THE OTHER PUBLIC
 COMMENTARIES ON THE CHINA HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT AS A
 WHOLE, DOES NOT COMMENT ON THE SEPARATION OF THE
 TIBET PORTION FROM THE REST OF THE CHINA REPORT THIS
 YEAR. NEVERTHELESS, THE TIBET DAILY COMES CLOSE TO
 EQUATING THIS USG DOCUMENT WITH THE PHILOSOPHY OF
 "SPLITISM" SO OFTEN ATTRIBUTED TO THE "DALAI
 CLIQUE." CAMP UNQUOTE HALLFORD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

Date:

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